

While current sanctions on Iran have impeded Iran's ability to successfully develop a nuclear weapon, most experts agree that Iran will have nuclear capabilities in the next two to three years if tougher sanctions are not imposed.

According to a recent report released by the International Atomic Energy Agency, Iran has a stockpile of low-enriched uranium that if further enriched could produce three nuclear weapons.

Earlier this week, I sent letters to Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN, Ranking Member BERMAN and House leadership urging them to consider H.R. 1905 and sanctions on the Central Bank of Iran. I am encouraged by the Committee's swift action and hopeful that this bill will swiftly be brought to the floor for consideration in the whole House.

H.R. 1905 strongly reflects the demands of the international community that tougher sanctions must be placed on Iranian leaders to end their nuclear program. If enacted, H.R. 1905 would increase sanctions on human rights violators in Iran, impose tougher sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), and would finally codify the U.S. policy to prevent Iran from developing unconventional weapons and ballistic missiles. This bill takes steps to peacefully thwart Iran's nuclear aspirations.

During the markup of this bill, an amendment offered by Ranking Member BERMAN to strengthen sanctions against Iran's Central Bank was unanimously agreed to. The Berman Amendment strengthens H.R. 1905 by inserting language that directs the President to determine whether the Central Bank of Iran is engaged in sanctionable activity.

By sanctioning the Central Bank of Iran, the United States would set a strong example for countries around the world that depend on a geopolitically stable Middle East for their own security and prosperity. Imposing tougher sanctions on the Iranian economy will demonstrate that the international community will not tolerate Iran's continued refusal to end their nuclear enrichment program.

Specifically, the Berman Amendment directs the President of the United States to determine whether the Central Bank of Iran has:

Assisted Iran's WMD or missile programs, including proliferation of WMD to other governments;

Financed Iran's procurement of advanced conventional weapons;

Provided financial services for the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps; or

Facilitated Iran's support of international terrorism.

Should the President make the determination that the Central Bank of Iran is involved in any of these areas, the bill would require him to apply sanctions under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act. These sanctions would ensure that any foreign bank involved in significant transactions with the Central Bank of Iran are excluded from doing business with the U.S. If this bill is passed by the whole House, the President will have 30 days to make this determination.

Mr. Speaker, history has taught us that strong sanctions can bring about peaceful change. A generation ago, Congress passed the Anti-Apartheid Act which led to the end of the apartheid regime and brought about a

peaceful revolution resulting in the new democratic South Africa.

While the Arab Spring has deflected a lot of attention away from Iran's nuclear enrichment program, H.R. 1905 will help to refocus our efforts on appropriately addressing this critical issue. Leaders in the Iranian government have shown repeatedly that they are unwilling to comply with international demands to scrap their nuclear program.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill and look forward to voting for it when it comes to the floor for final passage.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, while I was present for rollcall vote 820 on November 2, 2011, my vote was not recorded. Had my vote been recorded I would have voted "yes" on that passage of the Small Company Capital Formation Act.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HIRE VETERANS ACT OF 2011

### HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, as Americans celebrate Veterans' Day this year it is important to take time and reflect on the infinite contributions and sacrifices the men, women, and families of those who have served in our Armed Forces. Our commitment to veterans should not end with their service, we must show our gratitude by offering them every opportunity to experience the American dream that they fought to protect.

With a veteran unemployment rate of 22 percent nationwide, much more needs to be done to create an environment that helps the private sector hire men and women who have served our country in uniform, more than 250,000 of whom live in San Diego County. That is why I am pleased to introduce the Help Inspire and Retrain our Exceptional (HIRE) Veterans Act of 2011 along with my colleague, Congressman JOHN BARROW of Georgia.

Over the next two years, as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan begin to wind down, more veterans will find themselves searching for jobs in the civilian workforce. One of the biggest obstacles for unemployed veterans is connecting to employers. The HIRE Veterans Act of 2011 helps overcome this obstacle and provides opportunities to valuable members of our community with the resources they need to transition from the armed services to a civilian workforce. This legislation will authorize grants to be awarded by the Department of Commerce to local Chambers of Commerce to create job training, apprenticeship, and internship programs for local veterans.

The time to act is now. As part of the record, I am submitting letters of support from

the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce and the San Diego North Chamber of Commerce. These letters emphasize the importance of this legislation and describe how local Chambers and businesses can help HIRE veterans.

CARLSBAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

November 2, 2011.

Hon. BRIAN BILBRAY,  
Member of Congress, Rayburn House Office  
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN BILBRAY: I am writing to support the proposed Help Inspire and Retrain our Exceptional (HIRE) Veterans Act you are proposing in the upcoming session.

The Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce is the 10th largest Chamber in the State of California and the second largest in San Diego County. We are located adjacent to the large Marine Corps Base at Camp Pendleton and as such see first-hand the serious unemployment problem facing our young veterans. In response to the problem we have created the Boots in Business Military Mentoring Initiative to allow as many of the 8,000 veterans leaving the service from Camp Pendleton each calendar year to mentor with civilian employers across the county.

The main issue facing these veterans is competing for jobs with civilians in the region is their ability to see first-hand the types of jobs in the marketplace and learn what employers are looking for when they hire someone both in experience and education.

Our mission is to help military personnel in the last weeks of their active duty term learn about the business world through job shadowing 60 to 90 days prior to their discharge date. By showing them what it's like to work in a variety of professions, local companies will help veterans make smart future career and educational decisions. Our program (a Memorandum of Understanding MOU) is a collaborative effort between the Marine Corps Base at Camp Pendleton, the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce and many local businesses that are willing to provide a variety of job shadowing experiences to active military members and their spouses as they prepare to enter civilian life.

Military members are allowed up to 30 days of paid Temporary Additional Duty to be mentored, so they can shadow as many civilian jobs as possible during that time. A mentoring activity can be one day, one week or even one month in duration, depending on the goals of the veteran, the number of positions shadowed, and the depth of involvement with each position.

We are providing resume writing, job interviews, and first-hand experience test driving as many jobs that they desire in order to see if the job fits how they can compete to get it. There is no charge for our program and their spouses are equally allowed to participate.

If the veteran decides to return to his or her home town we have arranged with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to contact the local city chamber of commerce and notify them of the arrival of a new veteran and have them arrange business introductions were possible.

We endorse your proposed legislation 100%. The soaring unemployment rate adds another layer of difficulty to the job search experience. Your legislation will go a long way toward allowing Chambers across the country with veterans in their community have a fair chance to be hired and begin a meaningful career.

Respectfully,

TED OWENS,  
President/CEO.

Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce.